and the contributions, both economic and in ideas, which the returning wanderers have made to their native communities have been important factors in the development of the two southern coast provinces.

In the days of the Spanish occupation Chinese held an important place in the economic life of the Philippines. From time to time their number was reduced by massacres, but they persisted in coming. After the cession of the islands to the United States, the Chinese exclusion acts of that government were extended to the Philippines, but even to-day probably about one hundred and twenty thousand Chinese have their homes in the archipelago. The major part of the retail business and much of the wholesale trade has been in their hands.

Several scores of thousands (perhaps half a million) Chinese are to be found in French Indo-China. They have a large share in the retail trade of the country. Until recently, they controlled much of the rice market and held many of the peasants in a kind of economic bondage, but in the past few years that monopoly has been shaken—partly by the French and through the introduction of Western methods of administering large plantations.

Chinese have long been prominent in Siam (Thailand), especially in Bangkok, and have intermarried extensively with the Siamese. The Chinese of pure race in the kingdom probably number not far from three millions. A Chinese Government estimate of about 1920 asserts that they total a million and a half, but this is probably greatly below the facts. They have been prominent in business, the trades, and the professions, and in their hands has been much of the mining, the refining of sugar, and the^ rice milling.

Chinese are very important in the trade and industry of Burma. Perhaps four hundred thousand of them were there before the Japanese invasion. They have come both by sea and overland by way of Yunnan. Nearly every village has its Chinese moneylenders.

In what in 1941 was British Malaya—the British-controlled portions of the Malay peninsula and its adjoining islands—the number of Chinese was about equal to the native Malay stock. They began arriving centuries before the British occupation, but under British rule greatly multiplied and formed the major